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Review of *A Friend for Henry* by Jenn Bailey

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A Friend for Henry

Bailey, Jenn

Illustrated by Mika Song

San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2019

9781452167916

Henry searches for a friend among his classmates but has difficulty finding anyone who respects his need for space, order, and consistency. At last, Henry finds a companion in kind and quiet Katie; or rather, Katie finds him. *A Friend for Henry* could serve as a comfort for young children with autism or perhaps as a catalyst for discussing behavioral disorders with children. Although Bailey wrote the book with the purpose of autism awareness, the story itself does not provide explanation for Henry's abnormal behavior. This ambiguity makes the book less pertinent to a classroom setting. Henry clearly has difficulty interacting with his peers, but some might find it troubling that throughout the story, he does not learn to express his unique needs clearly, nor do the other children learn how to be attentive to these needs. **Additional Purchase** *Jacy Stahlhut, Centennial Library Intern, Cedarville University*